

# Wycombe pay for poor finishing against Barking

Sports Mail Special Report

WYCOMBE WANDS 1 : BARKING ..... 2

ALTHOUGH they had most of the play in the first half, Wycombe Wanderers lost their Isthmian League game against Barking, at High Wycombe today, through poor finishing.

**Wycombe:** Brown; Beck, Lewis; Thomas, Fisher, Gale; Worley, Horseman, Bates, Blair, Hyde.

**Barking:** Martin; Smith, Moffatt; Turner, Norman, Price; Ewers, Gray, Hearne, Codd, Lakey.

Referee: J. Reid (Morden).

With Peter James down with flu, Wycombe had Bates at centre forward and the attack moved fluently in the early stages, Blair providing a thrill for the crowd when he tested goalkeeper Martin with a powerful, long-range drive.

Bates followed it up a little later with a shot which brought Martin to his knees. Wycombe looked much more dangerous than the visitors in attack, but a lapse by the defence enabled Barking to take the lead after nine minutes. Centre forward HEARNE chased a pass down the centre, outstripped the home backs and beat Brown easily.

## FREE KICKS

Barking continued to claim the bulk of the attacking movements and Barking infringements brought them several free kicks, from one of which Bates sent in a crushing drive which Martin did well to save.

In sporadic counter-attacks Barking had to rely largely on their enterprising leader, Hearne, and he was a little unlucky once when his shot from the right wing spread across the Wycombe goalmouth with Brown out of position. No one was on hand to supply the finishing touch. The best move of the match came when Worley, Hyde, and Bates joined in a sparkling combined move which

ended in Bates heading just over the bar.

Half-time: Wycombe Wanderers 0, Barking 1.

Worley was prominent with some brilliant play for Wycombe in the second half, but again the home side were unable to pierce Barking's wary defence.

Wycombe had a narrow escape in one strong Barking counter-attack, when Brown blocked a shot by left winger Lakey and danger-man Hearne, following up, sent the rebound over the bar.

## HURT BY POST

The Barking left back, Moffatt, was severely injured when he tripped on the touchline and fell against a concrete post. But he was able to resume after treatment.

An equaliser came 25 minutes after the interval, though a little luckily, for Wycombe. The Barking centre half, Norman, attempting to clear a shot by Worley, only succeeded in diverting the ball into his own goal.

As Wycombe redoubled their efforts, goalkeeper Martin did well to stop shots from Blair, whose untiring efforts were a feature of the Wycombe play, and from Horseman.

But their very over-eagerness spoiled Wycombe's chances. Shooting was often too hurried. Barking hit back strongly again in the closing stages, and a few minutes before the end, right winger EWERS broke away to score the winning goal.

## RESULT:

WYCOMBE WANDERERS 1  
BARKING ..... 2

# BARKING HIT LATE WINNER

Wycombe Wnds. 1 Barking 2

AFTER claiming most of the play Wycombe Wanderers were beaten by a last-minute goal by diehard Barking in this Isthmian League game which provided little joy for the home crowd.

Off-the-target Wycombe rarely looked like getting the better of Barking's smart goalkeeper, Martin, and a strong back division in which centre-half Norman and right-half Turner were conspicuous.

Individual artistry by Worley and Blair was wasted in poor finishing and centre-forward Bates was too well shadowed to offer much threat.

The eclipse of their inside forwards by the Wycombe wing-halves, Thomas and Gale, slowed the Barking front line at times but the wingers Blakey and Ewers were very active and centre-forward David Hearne was the most dangerous raider on the field.

Hearne gave Barking the lead after nine minutes after a defensive lapse. Then Wycombe hammered away but were baulked until the 70th minute when Norman, in attempting to clear, diverted a shot by Worley into his own goal.

Hearne cleared the way for Barking winner when he slung across a centre which Brown only managed to palm for Ewers to score.